

THE KEY TO ST. PETER

THE PARSON'S PEN...

Greetings in the name of God our Father and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

As I sit down to write this newsletter article, I am feeling a little drained as I fight the after effects of bronchitis. So as I racked my brain as to what to put in as my article this time, my mind drifted back to this e-mail that I received the other day.

As I read this story it reminded me of our congregation in one way or another. I also think that we change roles as time goes by. Go ahead and read the story and I will comment a little more at the end.

"A young woman went to her Pastor and told him about her life and how things were so hard for her. She did not know how she was going to make it and wanted to give up. She was tired of fighting and struggling. It seemed as one problem was solved, a new one arose. Her Pastor took her into the kitchen. He filled three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Soon the pots came to boil. In the first he placed carrots, in the second he placed eggs, and in the last he placed ground coffee beans. He let them sit and boil; without saying a word.

In about twenty minutes he turned off the burners. He fished the carrots out and placed them in a bowl. He pulled the eggs out and placed them in a bowl. Then he ladled the coffee out and placed it in a bowl. Turning to his sister in Christ, he asked, "Tell me what you see."

"Carrots, eggs, and coffee," she replied. Her Pastor brought her closer and asked her to feel the carrots. She did and noted that they were soft. The Pastor then asked her to take an egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hardboiled egg. Finally, her Pastor asked her to sip the coffee. She smiled as she tasted its rich aroma. She then asked, "What does it mean, Pastor?"

He explained that each of these objects had faced the same adversity: boiling water. Each reacted differently. The carrot went in strong, hard, and unrelenting. However, after being subjected to the boiling water, it softened and became weak. The egg had been fragile. Its thin outer shell had protected its liquid interior, but after sitting through the boiling water, its inside became hardened. The ground coffee beans were unique, however, after they were in the boiling water, they had changed the water.

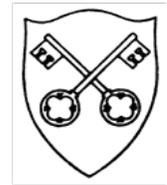
"Which are you?" "When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a carrot, an egg, or a coffee bean?" We should all think of this: Which am I? Am I the carrot that seems strong, but with pain and adversity do I wilt and become soft and lose my strength?

Am I the egg that starts with a malleable heart, but changes with the heat? Did I have a fluid spirit, but after a death, a breakup, a financial hardship or some other trial, have I become hardened and stiff? Does my shell look the same, but on the inside am I bitter and tough with a stiff spirit and hardened heart?

Or am I like the coffee bean? The bean actually changes the hot water, the very circumstance that brings the pain. When the water gets hot, it releases the fragrance and flavor. If you are like the bean, when things are at their worst, you get better and change the situation around you, when the hour is the darkest and

FEBRUARY 2011

NEWSLETTER



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trials are their greatest do you elevate yourself to another level?

How do you handle adversity? Are you a carrot, an egg or a coffee bean? The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything that comes along their way. The brightest future will always be based on a forgotten past; you can't go forward in life until you let go of your past failures and heartaches. By God's grace, may we all be coffee."

You may have seen this before or maybe you haven't, but I bet most of you have seen adversity. As long as we walk the earth, we will face adversity and there is a good chance, depending on the gifts that God has bestowed upon us by the power of the Holy Spirit, we will handle them in different ways.

As we approach new things, such as a building program, do your best to refrain from your knee-jerk reactions and ask God to use you for the furtherance of His kingdom. We have a great opportunity to do God's work in this community...to allow the Spirit to use us to change the world around us...or we can allow the world to change us. Your choice.

God's blessings to you. Thank you for all of your prayers for healing and by God's grace, my voice will be functional for church on Sunday morning.

In His hands,
Pastor K.

Children's Handbell Choir

Kid's age 7-12

Practices will be held on Wednesdays

Contact Cyndi at 872-2809

if interested or have questions.

St. Peter's Choir welcomes anyone who likes to sing and make a joyful noise to come be a part of the choir. Linda Chase in the choir director and practice is every Wednesday from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Come join us! You don't have to know how to read music. Singing in the choir is a blessing to the singer and the listener!



BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor's Bible Study

Studying the Fruits of the Spirit
9:30 a.m. - Sunday mornings
Led by Pastor Knobloch

Young Adults Bible Study

Join the Young Adults Bible Study to explore scripture
9:45 a.m. - Sunday mornings
Led by Arn Anderson

Wednesday Night Bible Study

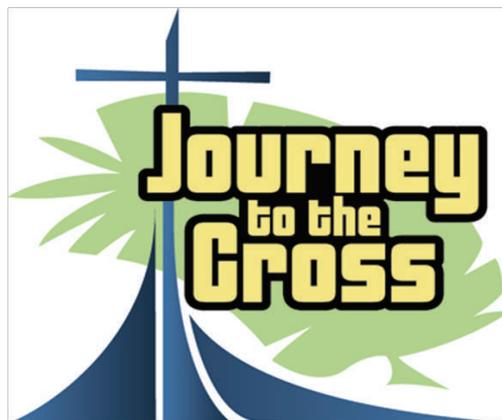
Study of First Corinthians
7:00 p.m. led by Jim Atkinson

Women's Bible Study

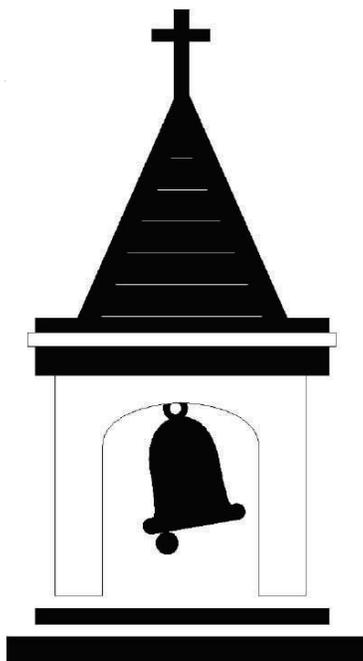
Studying Ephesians - Led by Wanda Brummett
"Finding your identity and purpose in Christ"
9:30 a.m. - Thursday mornings at the church

Men's Bible Study

Studying the Lord's Prayer
6:45 a.m. - Friday mornings in the Fellowship Hall
Led by Pastor Knobloch



Journey to the Cross
April 16, 2011
Bowie Community Room
Plan to be a part of this moving Lenten experience.
Contact Cyndi at 872-2809.



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE IN FEBRUARY

Elder — Jim Atkinson

Counters — Jim Atkinson, Hugo Chase,
David Drager

Nursery —

2/6 - Rebecca Pickett & Kelly Roth
2/13 - Maci Ferguson & Monica Mayfield
2/20 - Rebecca Horton & Char Lasch
2/27 - Molly Atkinson & Cyndi Knobloch
3/6 - Sherry Hammer & Chanda Rhyne

Altar Guild-Eva Fechtler

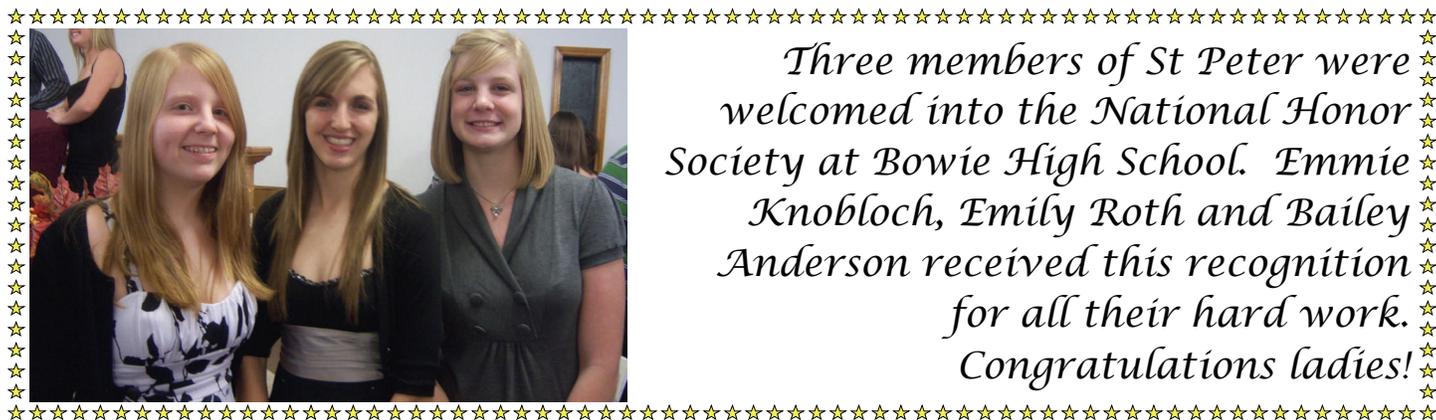
Altar Care - Diana Atkinson, Molly
Atkinson, Debbie Jones, Cyndi Knobloch

Lay Readers—

2/6 - Arn Anderson
2/13 - Bob Aune
2/20 - William Pickett
2/27 - Bryan Roth
3/6 - Monty Moeller

Acolytes —

2/6 - Katie Jones / Grant Roth
2/13 - Victoria Lasch / Lily Gill
2/20 - Jared Roberts / Jessie Roth
2/27 - Jena McCarty / Mattie Kurz
3/6 - Deagen Kurz / Tristan Smith



Three members of St Peter were welcomed into the National Honor Society at Bowie High School. Emmie Knobloch, Emily Roth and Bailey Anderson received this recognition for all their hard work. Congratulations ladies!

INDESCRIBABLE

Passion Talk Video Series

By Louie Giglio

Tuesday February 8 at 7:00 p.m.

We will begin by exploring the ultimate power of God.

Ladies are invited to join us as we begin the video Bible study series.

The Lunch Bunch Ladies of Bowie

Invite You to Attend Lunch at St Jeromes Catholic Church on February 22, 2011 at 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Great Food -- Educational/Fun Program -- Friendly Faces

Please Come and Bring a Friend

Have Any Questions? Call Carla Whitaker 872-2660 or Betty Falsone 872-1355

Quarterly Voter's Meeting - January 13, 2011

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Members present: Pastor Knobloch, Kelsey Knobloch, Jimmie Little, Terry Henry, Waldo Roth, Jim Atkinson, Mike Jones, Brent Husfeld, Norman Beyer, Linford Roth and Kenneth Geis.

President Terry Henry called meeting to order.

Pastor Knobloch opened with a prayer.

Secretary Kenneth Geis read the minutes, Jimmie Little made the motion, second by Norman Beyer, to accept minutes as amended.

October 14, 2010 Quarterly Meeting: changed Elder Arnold Wuthrich to Darren Gill. December 19, 2010 Special Voter's Meeting: The amount of \$3,967.50 was a deposit on the chimes for the new church, which is half of the total cost. Also, to ratify the motion to vote Gillis Hammett and Mike Jones as voting members.

Treasurer's Report: as given by Waldo Roth was an opening balance of \$16,213 and total income of \$69,404 with a total expense of \$71,812 giving a closing balance of \$13,805. Building funds -- Legend Bank \$35,306; Texas District \$450,745; Texas District Savings Account \$173,921; Cemetery Fund \$2,516; and Emergency Fund \$2, 337. Jimmie Little made the motion, second by Norman Beyers to accept treasurer's report. Motion passed.

Elder's Report: as given by Jim Atkinson that Pastor Knobloch and wife Cindy will attend two couple's retreat weekends this year. Lutheran Marriage Encounter will pay \$100.00 per person to aid in paying for replacement pastor for the congregation during Pastor Knobloch's absence. Pastor Knobloch and Elders are in planning for two services per Sunday during summer.

Pastor's Report: as given by Pastor Knobloch of average attendance for October - 86, November - 93, December - 85; Thanksgiving Eve - 40; Advent average - 26; Christmas Eve - 99 Christmas Day - 36; and New Year's Eve - 42. Marriages - 0; Burials - 0; Baptisms - 0. The theme for Lent services will be "Christ our Passover". Ash Wednesday will be March 9, 2011. Adult Confirmation attendance is up to 12 persons. Shut-ins are doing well. Jim Atkinson made the motion, second by Jimmie Little to accept Pastor's report. Motion passed.

Sunday School Superintendent's Report: as given by Pastor Knobloch that an incentive program was being pursued to improve Sunday School attendance.

Construction Committee Report: as given by Mike Jones. Construction costs were being re-evaluated, construction company's credibility checked, and loan availability pursued.

Old Business: Sound system repair has been put on hold due to construction opportunity.

New Business: Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve service offerings will be given to seminary student Eric Schmidt during the year of 2011. Motion was made by Jimmie Little, second by Don Unger to approve the Certificate of Resolution in the amount of \$889,000.00 to be presented to the Texas District Church Extension for loan approval, motion passed. Jim Atkinson made the motion, second by Kelsey Knobloch to drop Jimmie Little and add Terry Henry as an authorized signature at Legend Bank, motion passed.

Linford Roth made the motion to adjourn, second by Jimmie Little, motion passed. All closed with "The Lord's Prayer."

New Congregational Officers for 2011

President:	Terry Henry
Vice President:	Rich Lee
Secretary:	Kenneth Geis
Treasurer:	Waldo Roth
Elders:	Jim Atkinson, Darren Gill, Jimmie Little, Kurt Roberts
Financial Secretary:	Bryan Roth
S.S. Superintendent:	Rebecca Pickett
Head Usher:	David Geis

Please keep these members in your prayers as they lead our congregation during this year.

Sunday School Campaign



In an effort to boost Sunday School attendance, our K - 5th grade Sunday School classes are kicking off a special attendance campaign. We are planning a day trip to Dinosaur Valley State Park in Glen Rose right after school lets out (either late May or early June). Students who have a 50% or better attendance at Sunday School from February to May will get to go. We will see preserved dinosaur tracks, go swimming in the Paluxy River and enjoy a cookout. Please see Rebecca Pickett with any questions.

The **Evangelism Committee** sign-up sheet is in the narthex. If you are interested in meeting regularly and discussing ways of reaching out to our community please consider joining us. It will be an informal group and all ideas and options will be discussed. From special events and festivals around holidays to sponsoring programs such as ESL or First Aid classes...we have a clear slate to work with and we need your ideas. By meeting on a regular basis the ideas will remain fresh and not be lost in the cracks. This will also give us an opportunity to assist with programs that are already in place such a Midweek School, Vacation Bible School and the Christmas program. Jump in and get involved. The date of our first meeting will be February 20, but don't wait to start thinking of things to do and people who would be assets to this committee and the activities that the committee puts together. *-Pastor Knobloch*

Evangelism: "Leaving the person I've met with a better understanding of God than they would have had if they'd never met me." *-- Dennis Pethers*



Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of North Texas

We are looking forward to a great year of fellowship and fun!

There will be four outdoor ministry opportunities throughout the coming year:

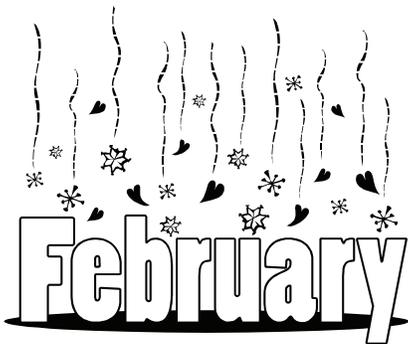
Family Camp-Out: is planned for April 15-16. It will held in conjunction with St. Paul's annual Easter Egg Hunt and hot dog lunch. Registration will be \$20 per tent and \$10 per bed inside the Family Center.

Summer Camp: Michael Cody volunteered to coordinate summer camp for youth ages 9-14 which will be held July 15, 16 and 17. Camper drop-off/check-in registration begins at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, July 15. Dismissal is after lunch and closing which both begin at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 17. Four Junior Counselors, ages 15 and above will be sought to assist in the camp. They will be selected through the application process. Their fee will be waived because their "service" will be their fee. The last day to apply for the position of Junior Staffer/Counselor is May 1, 2011.

Camper Registration will begin as soon as registration forms are distributed. EARLY registration is **\$90.00** per youth. Effective June 1, the fee for registration is **\$100**. A non-refundable deposit is required at the time registration paperwork is submitted, and this deposit will be applied toward the registration fee. **The last day to register is July 8, 2011.**

First Confirmation Retreat: is scheduled for September 16, 17 and 18. The cost and manner of registration will remain the same.

Second Confirmation Retreat: is scheduled for October 7, 8 and 9. The cost and manner of registration will remain the same.



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